AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The Assignee submits below a complete listing of the current claims, including marked-up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-13. (Canceled).

14.   (Previously presented) A system for providing transcription of a conference between a plurality of participants of the conference, the system comprising:

a plurality of reception stages to receive information from the plurality of participants over a respective plurality of transmission channels; and

at least one processor capable of receiving the information from the plurality of reception stages, the at least one processor programmed to:

analyze the information received at the plurality of reception stages to determine which of the plurality of participants of the conference is speaking during a given time interval based, at least in part, on identifying which of the plurality of reception stages is receiving speech information;

select one of the plurality of transmission channels corresponding to the reception stage identified as receiving speech information as an in-use channel;

determine channel information including at least one transmission parameter of the in-use channel;

extract at least one feature vector from the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information;

perform acoustic segmentation of the speech information to generate acoustic segmentation information indicating at least one segment identified in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information including a label for the at least one

segment of the speech information indicating whether the at least one segment is associated with speech, a pause in speech or non-speech;

determine a language of the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector and the acoustic segmentation information; and

generate text information corresponding to words recognized in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information and the language.

15.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 14, wherein the plurality of reception stages include at least two of the following:

at least one sound card installed in at least one computer, the sound card connected to at least one microphone;

at least one connection adapted to receive at least one analog telephone line;

at least one connection adapted to receive at least one digital telephone line;

at least one connection adapted to receive at least one Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) telephone line;

at least one connection adapted to receive at least one data network channel; and

at least one connection adapted to receive a voice-over-internet-protocol (VoIP) data stream.

16.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein the channel information includes bandwidth information of the in-use channel.

17.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the at least one processor is programmed to recognize at least one key word in the speech information based, at least in part, on the language of the speech information, and wherein [[the]] a speech recognizer provides the text information based, at least in part, on the at least one key word.

18.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the at least one processor is programmed to recognize a speaker group associated with the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the language of the speech information, and wherein the speech recognizer provides the text information based, at least in part, on the speaker group.

19.   (Currently amended) A method of providing transcription of a conference between a plurality of participants of the conference, the method comprising:

receiving information over a plurality of transmission channels from the plurality of participants;

analyzing the information received at the plurality of reception stages to determine which of the plurality of participants of the conference is speaking during a given time interval based, at least in part, on identifying which of the plurality of reception stages is receiving speech information;

selecting one of the plurality of transmission channels corresponding to the reception stage identified as receiving speech information as an in-use channel;

determining channel information including at least one transmission parameter [[of]] that identifies the in-use channel;

extracting at least one feature vector from the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information;

performing acoustic segmentation of the speech information to generate acoustic segmentation information indicating at least one segment identified in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information including a label for the at least one segment of the speech information indicating whether the at least one segment is associated with speech, a pause in speech or non-speech;

determining a language of the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector and the acoustic segmentation information; and

generating text information corresponding to words recognized in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information and the language of the speech information.

20.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein receiving speech information over a plurality of transmission channels includes receiving speech information via at least two of the following:

at least one sound card installed in at least one computer, the sound card connected to at least one microphone;

at least one analog telephone line;

at least one digital telephone line;

at least one Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) telephone line;

at least one data network channel; and

at least one voice-over-internet-protocol (VoIP) data stream.

21.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the channel information includes bandwidth information of the in-use channel.

22.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising recognizing at least one key word in the speech information based, at least in part, on the language of the speech information, and providing the text information is based, at least in part, on the at least one key word.

23.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising recognizing a speaker group associated with the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the language of the speech information, and wherein providing the text information is based, at least in part, on the speaker group.

24.   (Currently amended)   A computer readable storage device encoded with a plurality of instructions for execution on at least one processor, the plurality of instructions, when executed on the at least one processor, performing a method of providing transcription of a conference between a plurality of participants of the conference, the method comprising:

receiving information over a plurality of transmission channels from the plurality of participants;

analyzing the information received at the plurality of reception stages to determine which of the plurality of participants of the conference is speaking during a given time interval based, at least in part, on identifying which of the plurality of reception stages is receiving speech information;

selecting one of the plurality of transmission channels corresponding to the reception stage identified as receiving speech information as an in-use channel;

determining channel information including at least one transmission parameter [[of]] that identifies the in-use channel;

extracting at least one feature vector from the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information;

performing acoustic segmentation of the speech information to generate acoustic segmentation information indicating at least one segment identified in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information including a label for the at least one segment of the speech information indicating whether the at least one segment is associated with speech, a pause in speech or non-speech;

determining a language of the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector and the acoustic segmentation information; and

generating text information corresponding to words recognized in the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information, the at least one feature vector, the acoustic segmentation information and the language of the speech information.

25.   (Previously presented) The computer readable storage device of claim 24, wherein receiving speech information over a plurality of transmission channels includes receiving speech information via at least two of the following:

at least one sound card installed in at least one computer, the sound card connected to at least one microphone;

at least one analog telephone line;

at least one digital telephone line;

at least one Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) telephone line;

at least one data network channel; and

at least one voice-over-internet-protocol (VoIP) data stream.

26.   (Previously presented) The computer readable storage device of claim 25, wherein the channel information includes bandwidth information of the in-use channel.

27.   (Previously presented) The computer readable storage device of claim 24, further comprising recognizing at least one key word in the speech information based, at least in part, on the language of the speech information, and providing the text information is based, at least in part, on the at least one key word.

28.   (Previously presented) The computer readable storage device of claim 27, further comprising recognizing a speaker group associated with the speech information based, at least in part, on the channel information and the language of the speech information, and wherein providing the text information is based, at least in part, on the speaker group.